

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 16 from consideration and amend claims 1, 6, 13, 17 and 18 as follows:

1. A trimming attachment for a lawn maintenance vehicle, the attachment comprising:

a frame member which is removably connectable to the lawn maintenance vehicle;

a pivot arm for inducing lateral motion ^{in a horizontal direction} having first and second ends, the first end of the pivot arm being connected to the frame member at a pivot point;

a motorized trimming means attached to the second end of the pivot arm;

means for automatically adjusting the vertical height of the motorized trimming means;

and

a control lever connected to the pivot arm between the first and second ends.

tension spring
automatically raise
trimming means

6. The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 1 wherein the trimming capability of the [motorized trimming means] trimming attachment extends beyond the dimensions of the motorized trimming means.

13. [The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 11 wherein the pivoting connection comprises:] A trimming attachment for a lawn maintenance vehicle, the attachment comprising:

a frame member which is removably connectable to the lawn maintenance vehicle;

a pivot arm having first and second ends, the first end of the pivot arm being connected to the frame member at a pivot point;

a motorized trimming means attached to the second end of the pivot arm;

means for automatically adjusting the vertical height of the motorized trimming means comprising:

the pivot arm having first and second portions, the first portion of the pivot arm including the first end of the pivot arm which is connected to the frame member and the second portion of the pivot arm including the second end of the pivot arm to which the motorized trimming means is attached;

the first portion of the pivot arm being attached to the second portion of the pivot arm by a pivoting connection such that the second portion of the pivot arm is allowed to move in the vertical direction;

the pivoting connection comprising:

two vertical members, one of which is attached to the first portion of the pivot arm and one of which is attached to the second portion of the pivot arm; and

an upper set of pivot members and a lower set of pivot members;

the lower set of pivot members being pivotally connected at their ends to the vertical members of the first and second portions of the pivot arm;

the upper set of pivot members each being pivotally connected at one end to the vertical member attached to the second portion of the pivot arm and being pivotally connected at a point along the length of each upper pivot member to the vertical member attached to the first portion of the pivot arm;

the upper and lower set of pivot members being connected to the vertical members such that the pivot members are substantially parallel to each other; and

the upper set of pivot members extending beyond the vertical member attached to the first portion of the pivot arm and being connected to a counterbalance means; and

a control lever connected to the pivot arm between the first and second ends.

16. (removed from consideration)